

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

In the Specification:

Please amend the paragraph starting on page 4, line 21 as follows:

B1

FIG. 2. is a block diagram of the headend 11 as configured in the cable television system network to provide media-on-demand (MOD) services. MOD application server 19 is responsible for provisioning the services provided by the MOD application, as directed by the system operator, and for providing the content or data needed by the MOD application client that executes on the DHCT 16. Provisioning is the process that defines the MOD application's services, including the reservation and configuration of system resources needed to provide those services, and the capability to bill for such services. MOD application server 19 and a plurality of other application servers 20 14 are connected to a digital network control system (DNCS) 23 via an Ethernet connection 32.

Please amend the paragraph starting on page 4, line 29 as follows:

B2

The DNCS 23 provides complete management, monitoring, and control of the network's elements and broadcast services provided to users. The DNCS 23 uses a data insertion multiplexor 29 and a data QAM 30 to insert the in-band BFS data into an MPEG-2 transport stream. The DNCS 23 also contains a Digital Storage Media – Command-in-Control (DSM-CC) 34 session and resource manager 34 that works with other components of the DNCS 23 in order to support the delivery of the MOD service to the user. The DSM-CC session and resource manager processes user to network (U-N) session signaling messages, manages allocation of session-related network resources and supports network management operations. The DSM-CC session manager 34 (FIG. 2) supports exclusive services such as MOD by providing the signaling interface to establish, maintain and release client initiated exclusive sessions. The DSM-CC session manager acts as a point of contact to the network for the DHCT's in the network 18 to establish individual sessions. The DSM-CC session manager also defines a resource descriptor structure, which is used to request the network resources within a session.

Please amend the paragraph starting on page 9, line 23 as follows:

FIG. 4E is a diagram of the steps 89 to establish for establishing a MOD session.

B3
The DHCT 16 initially sends a message 91 to the DNCS 23 that initializes a session request. The request 91 usually happens after the MOD application client 65 has allowed the user to select a title that the user wishes to rent or purchase. Information about the on-demand media and any other application specific information is passed from the MOD application client 65 to the VOD content server connection manager in the VOD server session setup indication message 93. This setup indication message 93 is not modified by the DNCS, but is merely passed straight to the MOD application server 19. When the MOD application server 19 receives the session setup indication message 93, it verifies the eligibility of the DHCT 16 and the service that is being requested. The DNCS 23 may send the DHCT 16 a session proceeding indicating message 94.

Please amend the paragraph starting on page 9, line 32 as follows:

B4
If the VOD content server 22 determines that it can deliver the service, it sends a ServerAddResourceRequest message 97 to the DNCS 23 to reserve the network resources to deliver that service. The DNCS 23 allocates the requested resources and sends to the VOD content server 22 a ServerAddResourceConfirm message 98 to indicate that the requested resources have been allocated. The VOD content server 22 then responds to the service session indication message 93 with a server setup response message 99 that indicates that the VOD content server 22 is ready to begin delivering the service using the resources allocated by the DNCS 23. VOD content server 22 session setup response message 99 may contain user data which is passed by the DNCS 23 to the DHCT 16. The DNCS 23 sends the ClientSessionSetupConfirm message 102 to the DHCT 16 that contains the resource descriptors (not shown) needed by the DHCT 16 to receive the requested service. This message 102 may contain the user data that was sent from the VOD content server 22. Finally, the DHCT 16 sends to the DNCS 23 a ClientConnectRequest message 104 indicating that the DHCT 16 is ready to receive the requested service, and the DNCS 23 sends the VOD content server 22 a connect indication message 105 indicating that the DHCT 16 is ready to receive that service.